

Application No. 09/846,074
Reply to Office Action dated November 13, 2003

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a keyboard, the keyboard including a pointing device separate from the keys of the keyboard;
an interface communicatively coupled to the keyboard; and
a controller communicatively coupled to the interface, the controller to detect a ~~non-specific~~ key activation and to adjust a cursor of a the pointing device in response to detecting the key activation, said adjustment of said cursor to minimize inadvertent interruption of user input.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller moves the cursor to a pre-selected area on a display device in response to detecting the key activation.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller prevents movement of the cursor in response to detecting the key activation.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller reduces at least one of a movement and sensitivity of the cursor in response to detecting the key activation.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller adjusts the cursor in response to activation of a selected key.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller adjusts the cursor until key activation is no longer detected.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller hides the cursor from view in response to detecting the key activation.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller adjusts the cursor of one of a trackball device, touch pad device, and mouse device.

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9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller detects a selection of a key of a keyboard.

10. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
positioning a cursor of a pointing device, the pointing device separate from the keys of a keyboard;
detecting a selection of at least one key of a the keyboard; and
adjusting a the cursor of a the pointing device in response to detecting the selection of the at least one ~~non-specific~~ key, said adjustment of said cursor to reduce accidental interruption of user input.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein adjusting the cursor comprises moving the cursor to a pre-selected area of a graphical user interface.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein adjusting the cursor comprises re-sizing the cursor in response to detecting the selection of the at least one key.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein adjusting the cursor comprises preventing the cursor from moving.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein adjusting the cursor comprises adjusting the cursor based on a selection of a pre-selected key.

15. (Currently Amended) An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

receive ~~an~~ a user-selected option to control a cursor of a pointing device in response to detecting a non specific key activation, said control of said cursor to reduce the likelihood of accidental interruption of user input; and
store the user-selected option in a storage unit.

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16. (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to receive the option comprising at least one of moving the cursor to a preselected area on a display device, freezing the position of the cursor, and adjusting the size of the cursor.

17. (Currently Amended) An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

configure an option to control a cursor of a pointing device based on a selected preference of a user, said control of said cursor to enable user input without accidental interference from said pointing device;

detect a ~~non-specific~~ key activation; and

control a said cursor of a said pointing device in response to detecting the key activation[[]], ~~said control of said cursor to enable user input without accidental interference from said pointing device.~~

18. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to lock the cursor of the pointing device at a selected position in response to detecting the key activation.

19. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to move the cursor of the pointing device to a selected area on a display device in response to detecting the key activation.

20. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to resize the cursor of the pointing device to a selected size in response to detecting the key activation.

21. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to adjust the sensitivity of the pointing device in response to detecting the key activation.

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22. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to control the cursor of the pointing device based on the key activation of one or more pre-selected keys.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a pointing device, said pointing device separate from the keys of a keyboard;
an interface communicatively coupled to said pointing device; and
a controller communicatively coupled to the interface, the controller to adjust a cursor of a the pointing device during text-entry mode, said cursor to be adjusted to enable user input without accidental interference from said pointing device.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the controller disables the movement of the cursor during the text-entry mode.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the controller adjust adjusts the cursor based on a location of a selected key during the text-entry mode relative to the location of the pointing device.

26. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a pointing device;
a keyboard having one or more keys, said keys being distinct from said pointing device; and

a controller to adjust a cursor of the pointing device in response to detecting activation of the one or more ~~non-specific~~ keys of the keyboard, said adjustment of said cursor to enable key activation without unwanted input from said pointing device.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the keyboard comprises the pointing device and wherein the pointing device is at least one of a trackball device, mouse device, and touch pad device.

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28. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the controller moves the cursor to a pre-selected area on a display device in response to detecting the activation of the one or more keys of the keyboard.

29. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the controller prevents the cursor from moving in response to detecting the activation of the one or more keys of the keyboard.

30. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the controller stops adjusting the cursor of the pointing device if no activation of the one or more keys is detected.